14. The pill dispenser according to claim **13**, wherein the at least one processor estimates the weight of the pill by subtracting an estimated weight of a cup disposed within the receptacle from the communicated weight from the scale.

15. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, further comprising a pill-viewing camera positioned to capture an image of the pill through a transparent cup bottom, wherein the pill dispenser is configured to:

instruct the pill-viewing camera to capture a first image of the pill;

determine a presence of the pill within the first image;

instruct the pill-viewing camera to capture a second image;

determine an absence of the pill within the second image; and

determine compliance has occurred if the first image includes an image of the pill and the second image does not include another image of the pill.

16. The pill dispenser according to claim **15**, wherein the at least one processor identifies the pill using at least one of a color of the pill, a shape of the pill, characters on the pill, and a plurality of colors of the pill as determined using the first and second images.

17. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, wherein the storage medium further comprises processor executable instructions configured for execution by the at least one processor to instruct the pill-dispensing mechanism to dispense a plurality of pills in accordance with the predetermined schedule.

18. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, further comprising a touch screen in operative communication with the at least one processor.

19. The pill dispenser according to claim **18**, wherein the pill dispenser is further configured to display a pre-stored image of a prescribed pill on the touch screen about when the at least one processor instructs the pill-dispensing mechanism to dispense the pill.

20. The pill dispenser according to claim **19**, where the pill dispenser is configured to display a user-selectable prompt requesting user confirmation that the pre-stored image of the prescribed pill on the touchscreen matches the dispensed pill.

21. The pill dispenser according to claim **20**, wherein the pill dispenser is configured to audibly sound a reminder when a predetermined amount of time has passed and no user confirmation of the user-selectable prompt has occurred.

22. The pill dispenser according to claim **19**, wherein the pill dispenser to configured to display the pre-stored image of the prescribed pill on the touch screen about when the pill-dispensing mechanism dispenses the pill.

23. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, further comprising a communication component in operative communication with the at least one processor and a biometric identification component configured to generate biometric data, wherein the pill dispenser is configured to:

communicate with a server having electronic medical records stored therein using the communication component;

query an electronic medical record entry of the server; and

determine if the biometric data from the biometric identification component corresponds to a user as indicated by the electronic medical records.

24. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, further comprising:

a microphone in operative communication with the at least one processor; and

a speaker in operative communication with the at least one processor, wherein the pill dispenser is configured to:

play an audio recording requesting a sequence of words be spoken using the speaker,

record sound using the microphone, and

authenticate a user in accordance with the sound when a voice in the sound corresponds to an authorized user.

25. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, further comprising a communication component in operative communication with the at least one processor, a global positioning system component operatively coupled to the at least one processor and configured to determine a position of the pill dispenser, wherein the pill dispenser is configured to:

determine if the position of the pill dispenser is within a predetermined authorized area as determined by the global positioning system component; and

communicate to a server that the pill dispenser is outside the predetermined authorized area via the communication component.

26. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, wherein the pill dispenser is configured for insertion into a dock.

27. The pill dispenser according to claim **26**, wherein the dock supplies power to the pill dispenser and a communications link to a monitoring client.

28. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, further comprising a communication module attachable to the pill dispenser.

29. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, wherein the identifying camera is a panning camera.

30. The pill dispenser according to claim **29**, wherein the pill dispenser is configured to pan towards a face to center the face.

31. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, wherein the pill dispenser is configured to display a graphic illustrating an image of a patient taking the pill.

32. The pill dispenser according to claim **31**, wherein the graphic is illustrated after the button is pressed.

33. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, wherein at least one of the pill dispenser and a monitoring client initiates two-way communications when the pill dispenser determines that non-compliance has occurred.

34. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, wherein the pill dispenser and a monitoring client are configured for two-way communications and the pill dispenser utilizes an audio/visual device in the two-way communications.

35. The pill dispenser according to claim **1**, further comprising a body having a plurality of recesses each adapted to receive a pill container.

* * * * *